

President Reagan greets former NSA Director Lieutenant General Odom and Mrs. Odom. LTG Odom introduces the Deputy Director of NSA and other members of his staff to the President. LTG William E. Odom, U.S. Army (retired) has been awarded the National Security Medal which the President is presenting during this ceremony. The citation for the award is read:

LTG Odom has distinguished himself as an intelligence officer of the highest caliber, a skillful leader and an expert of wide renown on the Soviet Union. As the Director NSA/Chief CSS, he has, through bold initiative, inspired imagination, and unparalleled strength of leadership, set the U.S. Signals Intelligence System on a proper course to meet the formidable challenges of today and of the future. LTG Odom leaves a legacy to this Agency, the Intelligence Community and this country that reflects the ultimate in dedication, commitment and excellence.

As he pins the medal on LTG Odom's chest, the President congratulates LTG Odom and says he is very pleased and proud to be doing so. LTG Odom thanks the President. Applause is heard as Mrs. Odom joins them. The President repeats how pleased and honored he is. Mrs. Odom comments to the President that the ranch must be looking better and better every day and the President agrees heartily. Secretary of Defense Carlucci jokes about how much better LTG Odom looks now that he has retired. LTG Odom thanks the President again for taking the time.